

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-20 (canceled).

Claim 21 (currently amended): An isolated and purified antibody which specifically binds to a protein having cortistatin-like activity wherein said protein is selected from the group consisting of ~~SEQ ID NOs 23, 24 and 26, positions 44 to 74 of SEQ ID NO 26, positions 77 to 105 of SEQ ID NO 26, and sequences having at least about 95% amino acid residue similarity to SEQ ID NOs 23, 24 and 26.~~ SEQ ID NO: 23, SEQ ID NO: 24, SEQ ID NO: 26, positions 44 to 74 of SEQ ID NO: 26, and positions 77 to 105 of SEQ ID NO: 26.

Claim 22 (currently amended): The antibody of claim 21, wherein the antibody is ~~substantially~~ free from immunoreaction with neuropeptides other than cortistatin.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The antibody of claim 21, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

Claim 24 (currently amended): An immunologically active fragment of an antibody of claim 21 selected from the group consisting of ~~[[the]]~~ a Fab, Fab', F(ab')<sub>2</sub> and F(v) fragment~~[[s]]~~.

Claim 25 (previously presented): A method of making an antibody of claim 21, comprising the steps of:

- (i) immunizing a mammal with an inoculum containing an immunologically effective amount of a cortistatin polypeptide to induce in the mammal antibody molecules having immunospecificity to the cortistatin polypeptide;
- (ii) collecting the antibody molecules; and

(iii) isolating the antibody molecules that have immunospecificity to the cortistatin polypeptide.

Claim 26 (previously presented): A method of making an antibody of claim 23, comprising the steps of:

- (i) initiating a monoclonal hybridoma culture with a nutrient medium containing a hybridoma that produces and secretes antibody molecules with cortistatin specificity;
- (ii) maintaining the culture under conditions and for a time period sufficient for the hybridoma to secrete the antibody molecules into the medium;
- (iii) collecting the antibody-containing medium; and
- (iv) isolating the antibody molecules that have cortistatin specificity.

Claim 27 (currently amended): [[An]] A hybridoma cell that produces a monoclonal antibody of claim 23.

Claims 28 (previously presented): A pharmaceutical composition comprising an antibody of claim 21 and a pharmaceutically acceptable adjuvant.

Claims 29-44 (canceled).